



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Statement of
Richard C. Lim, Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**House Committee on
FINANCE**
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
11:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
HB 2468 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES.

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism supports this bill to study and analyze the potential for growth and diversity of Hawaii's economy through the development of infrastructure and available resources in order to facilitate the processing of agriculture and other commercial products from Hawaii Island, especially with respect to those commodities slated for export.

DBEDT is pleased to collaborate with the Department of Agriculture to perform planning, feasibility studies, and marketing and economic analysis for one or more facilities on the island of Hawaii to be used for quarantine inspection, quarantine treatment, deconsolidation, and consolidation of incoming and outgoing agricultural commodities. Due to the seriousness of the invasive species problem and seeing signs of improvement in export markets, especially in China and Canada, DBEDT estimates an appropriation of \$300,000 are necessary to carry out the purposes of this measure. Of this amount, \$210,000 would be allocated to perform planning and feasibility studies for one or more quarantine inspection and quarantine treatment, deconsolidation, and consolidation facilities, and \$90,000 to perform marketing and economic impact analysis for one or more facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



Scott E. Enright
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2014
11:15 AM
ROOM 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 2468
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 2468 relating to agricultural facilities. This bill will appropriate funds to perform studies and analysis relating to establishing facilities on the Island of Hawaii for quarantine inspection and treatment and handling of incoming and outgoing commodities. HDOA supports this measure, but defers to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism with regard to the preparation of the report.

The Island of Hawaii has a strong orientation towards diversified agriculture: producing and exporting coffee, papaya, macadamia nuts, tropical flowers and foliage. A central marketing facility is needed to facilitate the movement of agricultural commodities in, out, and throughout the State.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 25, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2468
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES

Room 308
11:15 AM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

Hawaii Farm Bureau **strongly supports HB2468**, authorizing DBEDT to work with HDOA on moving forward with the requirements of a inspection, treatment and handling facility for incoming and outgoing cargo.

Many bills have been introduced this year addressing problems surrounding invasive species. They all address invasives but are not part of a comprehensive effort to manage the core problem. Several years ago the Legislature created the mechanism of a comprehensive plan and significant progress was made in implementing the key measures. We seem to be drifting away from that effort. This measure, however, addresses a key component of the comprehensive Biosecurity Plan and should be given priority by DBEDT along with the Department of Transportation. A few days ago, SB2347 was heard, requiring treatment of all nursery stock that may contain invasive pests. This sounds like a very logical step, however, if associated programs to reduce pest infestations on lands adjacent to farms, and at ports and harbors along with appropriate treatment facilities are not available, this will be a cost prohibitive program for farmers.

The Big Island has coqui frog, little fire ant and coffee berry borer but also has a huge potential to expand agricultural production. This facility is vital to controlling the spread of harmful and invasive pests as Hawaii Island's production capacity and markets expand. We urge the legislature become familiar with the Hawaii Biosecurity Plan and to support its timely and complete implementation.

We thank you for your strong support of this measure.



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Seventh Legislature, 2014
State of Hawaii

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

11:15am

Conference Room 308

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

A bill for an act

HB 2468 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES.

Support HB 2468

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

We Support HB2468 Relating to Agricultural Facilities. As Farmers and Nurserymen we take pride in the products we grow and it is important that we be able to have our products reach the consumer. These facilities can help to support agricultural growth. It is important that we have the proper facilities to import and export products in a safe and efficient manner. These facilities, next to harbors and airports, will help contain pests and provide quarantines that will allow us to move our product in a timely manner. The county of Hawaii has agreed with us that that these facilities can help multiple agricultural products such as papaya, flowers, and tropical fruits allowing these industries to grow. I ask that you consider the good that these facilities could accomplish on behalf of agriculture for Hawaii.

We **SUPPORT** this bill and ask you to consider how we can better help all of Hawaii's Agriculture. If you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com.



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,

Eric S. Tanouye
President
Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association